



# STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

When it rains, stormwater carries pollutants into the District's rivers. While stormwater provides a natural water source for your lawn and flower gardens, it also runs off impervious surfaces like streets, rooftops and sidewalks.

As stormwater runs off of these paved surfaces, it picks up pollutants—such as toxic chemicals, dirt, and trash—and carries them into storm drains, and into our rivers and streams.



## YOU CAN HELP!

Residents and building owners can help by reducing pollution at the source:

-  Join DDOE's RiverSmart Homes program.
-  Use reusable water bottles.
-  Reduce, reuse, recycle.
-  Pick up pet waste.
-  Plant trees and ground cover to control erosion.

-  Properly maintain and operate your vehicle.
-  Limit car use and conserve energy. Take public transit, bike, or walk when possible.
-  Properly dispose of batteries, chemicals, yard waste, and hazardous waste.
-  Plant native plants that don't require fertilizers, extra watering, or pest control.
-  Don't dispose of trash in storm drains.

-  Don't Litter.
-  Don't wash yard waste or chemicals down storm drains.
-  Don't put oil and grease down the sink or storm drain.
-  Don't use plastic bags, foam take-out containers, or disposable plastic bottles.
-  Don't use fertilizers, copper-containing fungicides, and synthetic pesticides.

To learn more, visit:

[ddoe.dc.gov/service/reduce-stormwater-runoff](http://ddoe.dc.gov/service/reduce-stormwater-runoff)



RECLAIMING OUR RIVERS